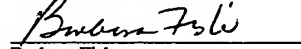


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Barbara Fisher  
Date: August 31, 2006

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of: )  
ADAMS, Nicholas James, et al. )  
Int. Appl No.: PCT/EP2005/050860 )  
Int. Filing Date: 1 March 2005 )  
PROCESS TO CONTINUOUSLY PREPARE TWO )  
OR MORE BASE OIL GRADES AND MIDDLE )  
DISTILLATES ) August 31, 2006

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Mail Stop PCT (DO/EO/US)  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115**

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as follows: